

Friday 25th February 2022

Dear families,

Next week, on **Thursday 3rd March**, we will celebrate World Book Day as a community. It is a particularly special day at Springfield, as reading is one of the four pillars of our curriculum.

The Pillars of Springfield's Curriculum

Vocabulary



Reading



Knowledge-rich



Experience-rich



Celebrating Stories

As part of our special World Book Day celebrations, your child will enjoy a story outside in the covered part of our forest area. Please look out for photos of this on Twitter @springcps and on Instagram @springfieldhackney. Whilst we celebrate stories on World Book Day, we also promote our children's love of reading non-fiction and poetry. Your child will also have poetry and information read to them on Thursday.

Celebrating characters

On World Book Day, we invite your child to dress up as a character from a book they love. This year, we are encouraging children to select characters from stories we read at Springfield as part of our reading curriculum and reading spine. Please take a look at our Reading Spine and curriculum coverage for inspiration: <https://springfield.hackney.sch.uk/curriculum/subjects/english/>

If possible, we encourage creative costumes that children have been involved in making. In school, we challenge children to think creatively about props they might use to convey their character, without going out to buy anything new. As a community, we also hugely value costume efforts that promote sustainability: reusing items and repurposing older items of clothing are great ways to save the planet and are budget-friendly.

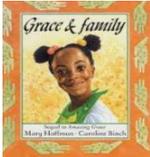
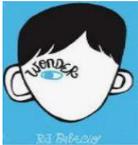
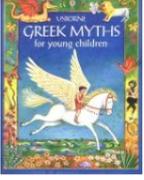
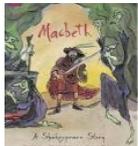
There is no requirement for your child to dress up if this is something that they are not confident to do. World Book Day is a positive celebration of loving reading. If your child would prefer to bring their favourite book to school, or a picture of their favourite character, they are very welcome to participate in this way.

Reading and Rights

World Book Day is a valuable opportunity for our children to reflect on how books are crucial for exercising several of their rights. We read to get information (Article 17 – access to information from the media), to learn and develop (Article 29 – goals of education) and, of course, for pleasure (Article 31 – leisure, play and culture).

Reading Themes

On Thursday, we will explore our reading themes when discussing our favourite fiction. Our curriculum has six main themes threaded throughout, to encourage children to see connections in the stories they read. Does your child's favourite story link to any of these themes?

Theme		Big Idea	Example	
	Bonds and Separation	Characters form a close <i>connection</i> and suffer when they are apart. They long to be reunited.	Grace and Family	
	Exclusion and Acceptance	A character is left out and feels lonely, often because they are different. Sometimes they are facing discrimination and are not treated equally. As a reader, we hope others reflect and welcome them to the group.	Wonder	
	Captivity and Freedom	A character fights to regain their freedom after losing it. Sometimes other characters help them in their pursuit of freedom.	Greek Myths (Icarus and Daedalus, Theseus and the Minotaur, Pandora's Box)	
	Good and Evil	Some stories have obvious 'goodies and baddies' or 'heroes and villains' and others force us to reflect on whether it is that straightforward. Sometimes, villains learn and grow.	Macbeth	
	Struggles and Successes	Most stories involve a struggle against a problem or obstacle. In some stories, the struggle in the plot is the main idea.	Ossiri and the Bala Mengro	
	Fear and Courage	A character faces a fear and often learns to have courage and believe in their abilities. With encouragement, they often overcome their fear.	The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark	

Tokens

Your child will receive a World Book Day token to spend on a book of their choice. We encourage you to take this opportunity to talk to your child about their reading preferences and to share in their excitement for selecting their free book.

Our new Book Hut

In addition to our temporary Book Hut, you may have spotted our new permanent Book Hut in the Tower area of the playground. Our School Councillors have worked hard to respond to feedback from across our classes and provide this outdoor space for relaxing reading at break and lunchtime. Thank you to families who have generously donated books for exchanging.

I hope you are excited as I am celebrate our love of reading next Thursday.

Anna Case